

Illustrated Message – Eat, Drink and be Merry

Actors

Bob and Marie – married couple
Ed – brother to Bob
Gabriel - Angel

Description of Bob and Marie;

- A married couple, cattle ranchers, family oil business owners, they live life to the fullest.
- World class travelers, hard workers, strong family values – everything revolves around their family and friends, they do nothing half way; be it sports, entertainment, education, business. They work hard and play hard.
- Their children are successful entrepreneurs, all are highly educated, and they spared no expense on educating them, the best of the best.
- ALL their close friends are successful.
- They've profited off of only hiring only immigrant workers rather than locals for their companies and ranches and see it as their contribution to developing countries.
- They're huge givers to non profit organizations and take a lot of pride in their giving.

Description of Ed;

- He's a fundamental Christian, believes the Bible in its entirety as truth
- He is a Bible scholar and teacher in a Christian College and a world traveler for missions work.

Scene

PHOTO OP AT A FUNDRAISING CHARITY GALA AND BOB AND MARIE ARE PRESENTING THE CLASSIC 6ft x 2ft, 1 MILLION DOLLAR CHEQUE TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE CHARITY. BOB'S BROTHER ED IS AT THE EVENT. RIGHT AFTER THE PHOTOS, ED WALKS UP TO BOB AND MARIE.

Ed

Congratulations brother.

Bob

Good to see you Ed, thanks for coming out. Ah, only Marie needs the congratulating; she's the hardest working one that made all of this happen tonight.

Ed

It's nice to be here and good to see you both again. I know you're flying off tomorrow for your ski trip, but I have an urgency to talk to you again about Jesus. (Marie and Bob feel a little awkward yet gracious).

Bob

(Tries to change the subject) By the way, how was the kid's camp this year that I sponsored at your church?

Ed

Just amazing! So many troubled kids from the inner city gave their lives to Jesus for the first time. They thoroughly enjoyed their camping experience! The newsletter will be out in the mail this week with your tax deductible receipt. Thanks again. But getting back to what's on my heart. I really believe you and Marie need to take serious thought about praying to receive Jesus as Lord of your lives, just as I've talked to you about it so many times.

Bob

But Ed...we don't need anything. We're prosperous, our house is in order, and our kids are prosperous and GOOD! I've been good and generous with them and they've turned out like Marie and me.

Ed

Ya, but are you ready to stand before Jesus Christ and give an account for your spiritual condition?

Bob,

Ed, you know Marie and me don't believe in life after death, there's no heaven or hell, we don't believe in any of it. When we're in the grave it's all over, that's why we live life to the fullest, can't take it with us, so we'll enjoy it now!

Marie

You know Ed, you need to get out and enjoy the good things in life too. Life is not just all about Jesus; otherwise you just become so heavenly minded that you're no earthly good anymore. Ah, anyways, maybe someday you'll get your feet firmly planted on the ground.

Bob

Ed, we've got an early flight tomorrow, it was nice seeing you. Thanks again for coming out. Let's have dinner some time when we're back from our ski trip.

SCENE

THE HELICOPTER IS DROPPING BOB, MARIE AND THEIR FRIENDS OFF ON THE TOP OF THE MOUNTAIN.

Bob

I just need to shake off what Ed said; I'm so looking forward to this (as he stretches out his hand at the view).

Marie

Yes, I agree, let's enjoy this day. This is the #1 ski resort in the world. I don't want to carry those negative words from our conversation with your brother.

Bob

Here's to life in abundance!!

SCENE

THEY DO THE LAST SAFETY CHECK ON THEIR SKIES AND GEAR AND HEAD DOWN THE MOUNTAIN. THEY BOTH TRAGICALLY FALL INTO THE SAME TREE WELL AND ARE SMOTHERED INSTANTLY AND DIE.

BOB AND MARIE ARE STANDING TOGETHER IN FRONT OF AN ELEVATOR.

Bob

Are you ok honey? I can't believe we made it out of there alive, how did that happen. I hit my head so hard, I can't remember a thing!

Marie

I can't remember anything either....UNBELIEVABLE! I guess this would be a miracle according to Ed. We'll have to tell him about it when we get home.

Bob

Where are we? This must be the basement of our hotel where we were staying? That hit was pretty hard on the head.

ELEVATOR DOOR OPENS AND THEY ENTER

Bob

Can you please take us to our room sir? It's suite #707.

Gabriel

Sorry Bob, there's no floor #7. You've both had a tragic accident on the ski hill and you both died in that tree well that you fell into. Now it's appointed to you to go to the judgment seat of God in heaven, to be judged individually and to see if your name is in the Book of Life.

Bob

(Laughing out loud) Ah that brother Harry of mine, he's such a joker. This is a game isn't it! The judgment seat of God. (Laughing again). He knows how much I rejected brother Ed's preaching. Harry's got way too much time and money on his hands. He's playing a game, just like that movie, "The Game", you know, the one with Michael Douglas!

Gabriel

Ah, no. This is no game. My name is Gabriel, I'm an angel and my job is to escort you to heaven.

Marie

(Just howling with laughter with Bob) You must be one of the highest paid actors in Hollywood today! Gabriel, that's great!

ELEVATOR DOOR OPENS

Gabriel

(Pointing to another angel who is there when the doors open)

This is Michael, another angel, and he'll take you right ahead to those doors, and through them you'll see Jesus Christ and He'll judge you.

Bob

Oh...of course...Michael! Nice to meet you, this is out of control! Nice place here, let's go see the judge. I bet my brother Harry is playing the judge too. Unbelievable! This is a cool game, expensive, but cool. Ya, let's go see the judge!

BOB AND MARIE WALK OFF WITH MICHAEL

LATER, THEY COME BACK TO THE ELEVATOR, VERY SOBER AND SOMBER.

Gabriel

Hello Bob and Marie.

BOB AND MARIE AREN'T SAYING A WORD AND THERE IS PIERCING SILENCE. THEY KNOW NOW THAT THIS WASN'T A GAME. THEY ARE FULL OF FEAR.

Marie

So...I don't get it Bob. What Ed said was true! There's a heaven and a hell. The judge told me that without Jesus as my Lord and Saviour, my name wasn't written in the Book of Life.

Bob

Neither was mine! Eternal life in hell! We didn't believe in hell, or heaven for that matter. We knowingly rejected the salvation plan that Ed preached to us over and over again.

THE ELEVATOR DOOR OPENS. OVERWHELMED AND IN STARK TERROR BY WHAT THEY SEE, THEY START SCREAMING AS THE FLAMES LICK AT THEM AND THEY HEAR THE TORMENTING SHRIEKS OF PEOPLE IN THEIR AGONY BY THE UNQUENCHABLE FIRE. BOB AND MARIE ARE VERY MUCH ALIVE, BUT SEPARATED FROM GOD

Marie

But we don't believe in this!

Gabriel

But that doesn't change the judgment.

GABRIEL CASTS THEM OUT OF THE ELEVATOR INTO THE LAKE OF FIRE

(This is a fiction script based upon the Bible scriptures – July 26th, 2015)

Bible Verses:

Luke 12:13-21; “Then one from the crowd said to Him, “Teacher tell my brother to divide the inheritance with me.” But He said to him, “Man, who made Me a judge or arbitrator over you?” And He said to them, “Take heed and beware of covetousness, for one’s life does not consist in the abundance of the things he possesses.” Then He spoke a parable to them, saying: “The ground of a certain rich man yielded plentifully. And he thought within himself, saying, ‘What shall I do, since I have no room to store my crops?’ So he said, ‘I will do this: I will pull down my barns and build greater, and there I will store all my crops and my goods. And I will say to my soul, “Soul, you have many goods laid up for many years; take your ease; eat, drink and be merry.”’ But God said to him, ‘Fool! This night your soul will be required of you; then whose will those things be which you have provided?’ “So is he who lays up treasure for himself, and is not rich toward God.”

Psalms 14:1; “The fool has said in his heart, “There is no God.” ...”

Matthew 5:22; “...But whoever says, ‘You fool!’ shall be in danger of hell fire.”

John 8:41-45; “You do the deeds of your father,” Then they said to Him, “We were not born of fornication; we have one Father – God.” Jesus said to them, “If God were your Father, you would love Me, for I proceeded forth and came from God; nor have I come of Myself, but He sent Me. Why do you not understand My speech? Because you are not able to listen to My word. You are of your father the devil, and the desires of your father you want to do. He was a murderer from the beginning, and does not stand in the truth, because there is no truth in him. When he speaks a lie, he speaks from his own resources, for he is a liar and the father of it. But because I tell the truth, you do not believe Me.”

Luke 16:19-31 – The rich man and Lazarus

Luke 14:26; “If anyone comes to Me and does not hate his father and mother, wife and children, brothers and sister, yes, and his own life also, he cannot be My disciple.”

Romans 10:14-15; “How then shall they call on Him in whom they have not believed? And how shall they believe in Him of whom they have not heard? And how shall they hear without a preacher? And how shall they preach unless they are sent? As it is written; “How beautiful are the feet of those who preach the gospel of peace, Who bring glad tidings of good things!”

Galatians 6:7-9; “Do not be deceived, God is not mocked; for whatever a man sows, that he will also reap. For he who sows to his flesh will of the flesh reap corruption, but he who sows to the Spirit will reap everlasting life. And let us not grow weary while doing good, for in due season we shall reap if we do not lose heart.”

I Corinthians 15:58; “ Therefore, my beloved brethren, be steadfast, immovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, knowing that your labor is not in vain in the Lord.”

I Corinthians 3:12-15; “Now if anyone builds on this foundation with gold, silver, precious stones, wood, hay, straw, each one’s work will become clear; for the Day will declare it, because it will be revealed by fire; and the fire will test each one’s work, of what sort it is. If anyone’s work which he has built on it endures, he will receive a reward. If anyone’s work is burned, he will suffer loss; but he will himself be saved, yet as through fire.”

Proverbs 11:30; “...And he who wins souls is wise.”

John 3:16; “For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life.”

Hebrews 9:27; “And as it is appointed unto men once to die, but after this the judgment.”

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Revelation 20:15; “And anyone not found written in the Book of Life was cast into the lake of fire.”

II Corinthians 5:10; “For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ, that each one may receive the things done in the body, according to what he has done, whether good or bad.”

Matthew 25:30; “And cast the unprofitable servant into the outer darkness. There will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.”

Matthew 19:23-25; “Then Jesus said to His disciples, “Assuredly, I say to you that it is hard for a rich man to enter the kingdom of heaven. And again I say to you, it is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle than for a rich man to enter the kingdom of God.” When His disciples heard it, they were greatly astonished, saying, “Who then can be saved?”

Deuteronomy 8:18; “And you shall remember the Lord your God, for it is He who gives you power to get wealth, that He may establish His covenant which He swore to your fathers, as it is this day.”

John 12:48; “The one who rejects me and does not receive my words has a judge; the word that I have spoken will judge him on the last day.”

Ephesians 2:8; “For by grace you have been saved through faith, and that not of yourselves; it is the gift of God.”

John 14:6; “I am the way, the truth and the life, no man comes to the Father but by me”.

II Corinthians 5:10; “For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ, that each one may receive the things done in the body, according to what he has done, whether good or bad.”

Romans 10:9; “That if you confess with your mouth the Lord Jesus and believe in your heart that God has raised Him from the dead, you will be saved.”

Matthew 19:25-26; “When His disciples heard it, they were greatly astonished, saying, “Who then can be saved?” But Jesus looked at them and said to them, “With men this is impossible, but with God all things are possible.”

Romans 5:8; “But God demonstrates His own love toward us, in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us.”

Romans 3:23-26; “For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, being justified freely by His grace through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus, whom God set forth as a propitiation by His blood, through faith, to demonstrate His righteousness, because in His forbearance God had passed over the sins that were previously committed, to demonstrate at the present time His righteousness, that He might be just and the justifier of the one who has faith in Jesus.”

Review and Recap of Illustrated Message by Marjorie

II Peter 2:4-5; *“For if God did not spare angels when they sinned, but cast them into hell and committed them to pits of darkness, reserved for judgement; and did not spare the ancient world, but preserved Noah, a preacher of righteousness, with seven others, when He brought a flood upon the world of the ungodly...”* Noah is called a preacher of righteousness, much like Ed in our illustrated message. During the 120 years it took Noah to build the ark, his generation was mocking him. He kept saying a flood was coming, that people needed to repent from their wickedness, but when they looked to the skies, they saw nothing that would indicate a change of weather. As a matter of fact, there had never been rain, it was the dew and moisture from the ground that watered the lands. They thought he was crazy. It didn't matter what they believed though, they were swept away in flood waters when what Noah prophesied came to pass. Luke 17:27 also says; *“They ate, they drank, they married wives, they were given in marriage, until the day that Noah entered the ark, and the flood came and destroyed them all.”* Right to the last, even when the heavens started to open with rain, they were probably saying, “We don't believe this, we don't believe you Noah, we don't believe in judgement, we can do what we want, when we want and how we want. There is no God who will judge us, we're our own gods, and we're not accountable to anyone. WE DON'T BELIEVE YOU NOAH!”

If our convictions and belief systems are not based on the Bible, the Word of God, we too will be swept away into eternity without God, just as that generation was, regardless what we believe. James 2:19 says; *“...Even the demons believe – and tremble!”* That's powerful.

This message cuts to the quick of our hearts, Bob and Marie were not rich toward God, they denied Him, their motto was, “Eat, drink and be merry.” Even though they did charitable deeds and gave their money away, their hearts were not rich toward God. Not that riches and wealth are wrong. We're not saying that; for Deuteronomy 8:18 says; *“But you shall remember the Lord your God, for it is He who is giving you power to make wealth, that He may confirm His covenant which He swore to your fathers, as it is this day.”* It's what's in the heart that the Lord looks at.

Jesus called the rich man in Luke 12:13-21 a 'fool' for having the attitude and conviction of taking his ease to eat, drink and be merry. Our riches do not give us access to heaven and eternal life. Psalm 14:1 says; *“The fool has said in his heart, ‘There is NO God’.”* Jesus continues to rock those who he preached to when he says in John 8:41-45; *“...Because you are not able to listen to My Word. You are of the father the devil, and the desires of your father you want to do.”* Try saying that to a co-worker, neighbour and family member today ... they would be furious with you. But that's what Jesus said, so it's truth. I Corinthians 1:18 says; *“For the message of the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God.”*

The reality is; if we don't have Jesus as Lord of our lives and aren't born again, our only other lord or father is ... the devil. There's no middle road. The proof of us acting like him are being carnal, fleshly, self-seeking, and as it says in Colossians 3:5-6, full of *“...fornication, uncleanness, passion, evil desire and covetousness, which is idolatry. Because of these things the wrath of God is coming upon the sons of disobedience.”* There are many other fruits of unrighteousness that the Bible references also.

Our life can change only through receiving Christ Jesus into our hearts and lives. The Holy Spirit will come into our lives and we will be transformed into a new person, our actions and deeds will change because we now have almighty God living in us through the power of the Holy Spirit. We will receive forgiveness of our sins and they will be remembered no more. Our lives will have hope, love, acceptance, peace, joy and so much more. *“Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; old things have passed away; behold, ALL things have become new,”* II Corinthians 5:17. Don't reject Jesus and be deceived by this world and its influence. Be born again! John 3:16, *“For God so loved the world that He*

gave his only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life.”
Our belief needs to have an action of receiving and confessing Jesus as Lord in our lives.

